

Nighttime Thursday, Nov. 23, 1944

Sweetheart;

How do you like my new stationery?  
I was able to buy this at the PX here. I hope  
they have more of these tablets in tomorrow.  
If they have I'll try to get a few more.

Tonight, my first night of work,  
went very well. I just worked three hours  
and got off the rest of the night. All I did  
was pull service records out of the files so  
they could be checked against the payroll.  
I discovered that they made an error on my  
entry in the payroll and I believe they owe me  
a little money. When I had finished with  
this work I had to do some thrilling alpha-  
betizing of papers. It's all very easy work and  
I'll have a laven till I ship out. That's  
all I care about.

This day has seen me receiving  
thirteen letters, six of them from you. They  
were wonderful. One of your letters was a  
new one which was very nice. It was your  
letter of November 4th. I got the picture of  
you in your high school cap and gown.  
Very pretty indeed, how could it be other-  
wise Sweetheart? I don't recognize the  
house in the background though. In answer  
to your query, I graduated from high school  
in 1939, two years before you did. Why but  
you're a very young little girl aren't you?  
More than three years younger than I am.

I also received the picture of the modern Victorian silverware and like it very much. It does not have too much decoration on it and yet is quite decorative. I also like the way a monogram is set off by the shape of the handle. That's the one bad thing I about Lyric. I don't think an engraved letter would show up to good advantage on it. That is if you like the monogram. I do like this pattern very much and think I like it better than Lyric. What do you think.

About those Christmas presents Sweetheart; your suggestions were very good about making a pinafore for Beverly Ann and making Pauline a present of your so decorative but so small pants. You'll have to get yourself some others, the right size, if they are as nice as you say. They sound downright intriguing and I'd like to see them. If you do decide to do this instead of buying the gifts I wish you'd take the money I sent you and put what you saved on the gifts right in the Silver fund.

I earned three florin for the fund today by the sale of some V-Mail Christmas cards. I decided not to make any more but it seems that I'd have to change my mind because all the fellows



want some. I guess that at \$1.00 for six cards I can probably afford to make them. I do hate to waste the ink though because that's very precious.

So Nan Robinson thought that you'd be going out with someone else did she? Don't very glad you fooled her. Does she think you're fickle that she would make a bet like that. Let that be a lesson to her.

I made a Christmas card for Mom and Dad today. It was a scene on K.P. The pots and pans boys were shown at work. I did a pen and ink sketch and colored it with my crayon pencils. It came out quite well. I think they'll appreciate it.

Friday, Nov. 24, 1944

Swiftly and Babe both wrote me letters. Babe is his wife. They thanked me for the spoon May and I sent Stuart. You see, before I broke off with Mary, I sent her some money to buy a present for the baby. She bought it and sent it from the both of us as we had originally intended to do. Poor Swiftly didn't know just what to do about acknowledging the gift so Babe told him that she'd take care of the whole thing and told Swiftly to just thank me. I guess she wrote Mary herself. That letter of Mary's that Mom sent me hasn't yet arrived. I'll let you know what it ~~is~~ <sup>is</sup> about.

It surely is wonderful not to have to worry about details or training during the day. This morning I'm going to rinse out some laundry I've had soaking. It should come out fairly clean. I do hate doing laundry though it's such a damned nuisance. I'm glad you think you can do it all right for just the two of us. When Michael makes his appearance though we're going to give up all efforts at doing out our laundry and will send it out. It's too much work.

~~After~~ After laundry I just finished rinsing out my wash and at the last minute discovered some fellows who wash sun tans and fatigues for a florin a suit (32¢). They are going to have a steady customer because it will be worth about a dollar a week to me not to have to do that work. That's about the only thing I have to do with my money and it sounds good to me.

The rains are really coming here now. The past two nights we've had terrific downpours. I don't know whether they reached typhoon proportions but as far as I'm concerned they did. Our tent is quite waterproof though so it's very nice sleeping with the rain falling on the tent top. Nothing puts me into as sudden and as sound a slumber as

the sound of falling rain. Of course I'm sure it would take more than that to put me to sleep if you were there beside me. When I'm back with you I think I'll stay awake all night even after you go to sleep just to look at and admire you. You're so very beautiful Darling, and I'm so very proud of you that I'd like to just go around everywhere with you and just shout out the good news that you are my wife.

One idea that folks in the States have is that their mail is being censored when they write overseas. This is not so. It is only from my end that censorship enters into it. Not that it makes any difference one way or the other because I'll still persist in telling you in no uncertain terms that I love you, miss you, and that when I return you can be sure that you will be most ardently loved and find yourself in a similar predicament to that which that fellow who wrote his wife about the bedroom ceiling said she would be in. You don't mind do you Honey? It's so damned hard to be separated from you this way. We've just got to end this war soon and get me back to you before they send me home in a strait jacket.

There's a nice map of New Guinea in the last issue of Yunk. It's a comic map which I'm sure you'll enjoy. I'll send it along to you to give you an idea of the G.I. version of New Guinea wildlife.



I just got two letters from you. They were written November 7<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. It was swell to get them as it always is sweetheart. I'm sorry the pictures you had taken with your new hat on did not come out. I will be anxiously awaiting the arrival of the others though. I hope you can get them made up soon.

Your monetary position is not too good is it? Borrowing yourself into a hole that way. I'm surprised at you. Didn't I learn you any better than that? Your promise that once you get this paid back you won't borrow any more sounds like your promises to swear off smoking.

What kind of furniture do they have in that book you got? Will be able to make a lot of it for ourselves so just hang onto that book and select the things you'd like to have. Is your father still cool toward the idea of making the chest. If so, I'll make it for you when I get back. I will undoubtedly be much too busy to work on it for quite a while though because I have a more immediately pressing problem to take care of when I get back - you!! You will be all that I shall have any time for. The world can just go right along on its way past us and just leave us alone with our love for one another. Later we can concentrate slightly on unimportant things

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such as furniture.

I thought you knew that under the G. I. Bill of Rights I got \$75 a month while I go to school. Even though you would get the same thing if you joined the WAVes I do not think it would be a good idea. What if I were to get out of the Army only to find that you were not to be discharged for a while. That wouldn't be good now would it. You'll be much better off getting yourself a job till I get back and then maybe we could even work it so you could get your masters with me if you wanted to. I could probably figure out some way to make extra money to supplement our \$75 monthly without dipping into our savings. Or if you didn't want to get your masters degree you could probably find some job that wouldn't keep you apart from me any more than necessary and we could put away part of what you earned. Either way I'm sure that as long as we're together all will be well and we'll get along very nicely.

It's raining again. Poor Redmon is out in the rain, or training, without his poncho. He'll really get soaked. My clothes were almost dry too. Now they'll probably have to stay out there till tomorrow because it will surely rain this evening so they won't be dry by the time I go to work. This weather is terrific.

It's almost three months now since I last saw you. That's a terribly long time to be separated from you sweetheart but I do think of you constantly and still can think of how nice it will be when I am back with you. I hope I'm not apart from you much longer because I miss you like blazes. Don't ever think that I won't appreciate you fully when I'm back with you. I think I'll just chain myself to you so we won't ever be apart. It would be so wonderful if we didn't have to worry about making a living but could just concentrate on loving one another full time. I'll have to go to work on that idea immediately.

Some of the fellows are in between the tents where the water leaks down and are taking showers there. It's a good idea and if I didn't have more important things to do right now I would do likewise. The wells should be well filled so I'll take a regular ~~shower~~ shower later. One good thing about the water around here is that it lathers beautifully. In washing clothes this isn't so good because it's hard to rinse all the soap out of the clothes.

Have you ever eaten bully beef? It's rather a weird variety of beef and its taste never varies. I don't know just what to compare it to. It's rather salty and falls apart easily. A steady



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diet of it gets very monotonous. The Quartermaster boys here have a sign out in front of their area which reads "Home of the Billy Beef Boys". They supply us with our food as well as clothing and equipment. It's a nice branch to be in.

Regarding the argument your mother and father had concerning the difference between a T5 and a corporal: the basic difference is that the T ratings are given to technicians or specialists in any branch of work, while the corporal's rating is given for field duty - the handling of men or administrative work. If a man is in charge of others he usually gets the regular line rating whereas if he merely is a technician he has a T rating. This is roughly the difference. For instance, at Lowry Field I was a bomb sight mechanic and as such should have gotten a T rating but as I also taught classes, and therefore had men under me, I got a regular rating. (Of course the Air Corps, being different from the Army, does not give out T ratings but gives straight line rating but as an example of how it could work in my case I just assumed that they did have them). The pay is the same for either the T rating or the field rating.

You must keep quite busy coloring up that map if you color in all the places we've taken. Except for isolated pockets of Japs I guess we've just about cleared up the Japs on New Guinea. I wonder what will happen to those we have trapped. They'll probably go native and eventually just die out I guess. Too bad it isn't Japan we're just finishing cleaning up. The fellows said that the Jap Premier announced over Radio Tokyo that if the island of Leyte was lost Japan's fate is sealed. If he is right, and I think he is, the Jap cause is dead right now. I'm sure that despite the temporary stalemate, we will have Leyte before much more time elapses than we should finish taking the Philippines in quite short order. I hope so because I want to get home soon to tell you that

I love you with all my heart

Always  
Freddie